IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Replace paragraphs **0029** through **0033** with the following paragraphs

[0029] The figures depict a cutting device [[I]] 1 that cuts or starts tears of seams~~. Used as~~ and can be used on floor ~~covering are materials~~ coverings such as CV (Cushel Vinol), linoleum, needled felt, carpet felt, PVC, [or] and rubber or cork. The cutting device 1 includes base body 2, a blade 3 and a contact edge 4. As best seen in Figs. 1 and 3, the base body 2 includes lateral body portions 2a and 2b. The body portion 2a defines a generally flat front surface 19a and generally flat bottom surface 5a. The body portion 2b defines a generally flat front surface 19b and a generally flat bottom surface 5b. The front surface 19b is recessed relative to front surface 19a and the bottom surface 5b is recessed relative to bottom surface 5a to provide contact surfaces 4a and 4b for flooring material abutment. The blade 3 is mounted ~~to the base body 2, while the contact edge 4 is formed on the bottom side 5 of the base body 2. The contact edge 4 that extends across the entire bottom side 5 of the base body 2 is used for applying an edge to the floor covering. A~~ in a recess 11 formed in the lateral body portion 2b, as are a removable first plate 6, ~~and~~ a removable second plate 7, ~~are fastened in the front end area of the base body 2.~~ and **~~[0030]~~** ~~First of all, it is important that~~ at least one additional plate 8, 9, 10 ~~is provided~~ to enable the blade 3 to be located between the second plate 7 and the additional plate 8 or between adjacent additional plates 8, 9, 10. The embodiment that is described here includes three other plates 8, 9, 10 in addition to

the first two plates 6, 7. Using the individual plates 6, 7, 8, 9 10, different cutting widths can easily be ~~adjusted~~ achieved, in particular since individual plates have different ~~widths~~ thicknesses. Plate 8 has the approximate ~~width~~ thickness of plate 7. Naturally, it is possible to select other ~~width~~ thickness dimensions for the individual plates as well. In terms of their arrangement in relation to each other, the plates are combined, if necessary, for the respectively wanted cutting widths.

[0031] ~~At least one~~ The recess 11 ~~that~~ is accessible from the front end, side and ~~from the~~ bottom ~~side is provided in the base body 2~~ surface at the lateral body portion 2b for ~~the plates, and in which~~ positioning of the individual plates 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 ~~are arranged~~. In the embodiment shown the recess 11 is open on its side, featuring only a lateral enclosure, which is constituted by wall 12 of the [[base]] body [[2]] portion 2a.

[0032] Furthermore, a clamping device 14 is utilized for fastening the removable plates 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 on the base body 2. In the present embodiment the clamping device 14 is realized as a screwed connection, consisting of a screw 15 and a clamping nut 16.

[0033] As seen in particular in Fig. ~~2~~ 4, the blade 3 extends with its cutting edge 18 beyond the bottom ~~side 5~~ surface 5b of the ~~base body 2~~ lateral body portion 2b. It is important in this context that the blade 3 also extends beyond the front end ~~19~~ 19b of the ~~base body 2~~ lateral body portion 2b, and that the cutting edge 18 extends to the front end side as well, thereby allowing cutting action on the front end ~~19 of the base body 2~~ 19b. All that is necessary for accomplishing this is that the cutting device be rotated by approximately 90° in relation to the condition

depicted in Fig. 2. In order to be able to maintain the desired cutting width in this situation, the contact edge ~~4 also~~ 4b extends from the bottom ~~side 5~~ surface 5b along the front end side ~~19~~ 19b of the base body 2. Moreover, the bottom side ~~5~~ 5b and the front end side ~~19~~ 19b of the base body 2 are also arranged at a right angle in relation to each other following a rounded transition in the area of the apex.